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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/490,448	01/24/2000	Atsushi Nakamura	862.C1795	7161

5514 7590 04/07/2003

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EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2189

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DATE MAILED: 04/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PRC

Office Action Summary

Application

09/490,448

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Isoda (U.S Patent 6,249,835)

a. As per claim 1, Isoda discloses an information processing apparatus comprising:

- communication control means for connecting an external device so as to allow communication; and (col.2, lines 1-23), (col.6, lines 54-57),

wherein controller (fig.2, 7 controller for communication between memory to printer (external device), (col.4, lines 1-45)

- memory (RAM 2) means for storing information about a device mountable (ink jet) on said apparatus in a memory area which can be accessed by the external device (printer) via said communication control means, (col.2, lines 1-23) ; (col.8, lines 17-44)
- wherein the device mountable on said information processing apparatus includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. (col.13, lines 11-37), wherein ink jet cartridge is attachable part, photocouplers detecting carriage lever as an assisting function)

b. As per claim 2, Isoda discloses information processing apparatus further comprising transmission means for transmitting information in the memory area in accordance with a request from the external device via said communication control means. (col.2, lines 1-23) (col.6, lines 54-57), wherein controller (fig.2, 7 communication between memory to printer (external device)

c. As per claim 3, Isoda discloses communication control means comprises a communication control bus complying with an IEEE-1394 standard. (col.4, lines 36-45)

d. As per claim 4, Isoda discloses the memory area is set in a configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard. (col.4, lines 16-45)

e. As per claim 5, Isoda discloses position information unique to an electronic device is written in a node dependent info directory of the configuration ROM.

(col.4, lines 1-62)

f. As per claim 6, Isoda discloses the memory area is specified based upon information held in an Instance Directory of the configuration ROM. (col.4, lines

1-62)

g. As per claim 7, Isoda discloses memory means stores, in the memory area, information indicative of the device mountable on said information processing apparatus and a device that has already been mounted on said information processing apparatus. (col.14, lines 25-33), (col.15, lines 5-18)

h. As per claim 8, Isoda discloses an information processing apparatus comprising:

- communication control means for connecting an external device so as to allow communication; (col.2, lines 1-23), (col.6, lines 54-57), wherein controller (fig.2, 7 communication between memory to printer (external device)
- acquisition means for accessing a memory area of the external device via said communication control means and acquiring information about a device on which the external device is mountable; and (col.14, lines 25-33), (col.8, lines 17-18) and (col.4, lines 52-54)
- display control means for controlling display based upon the information acquired by said acquisition (col.9, lines 39-50)

- wherein the device mountable on said information processing apparatus includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. (col.13, lines 11-37), wherein ink jet cartridge is attachable part, photocouplers detecting carriage lever as an assisting function)
- i. As per claim9, Isoda disclose communication control means comprises a communication control bus complying-with an IEEE-1394 standard. (col.4, lines 36-45)
- j. As per claim10, Isoda discloses the apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said acquisition means accesses an Instance Directory stored in a configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard to acquire information about the device that is mountable on the external device. (col.4, lines 1-62)
- k. As per claims 12, 18, 19, 20, 22, Isoda discloses an information processing system comprising:
 - communication control means for connecting to a plurality of information processing apparatuses so as to allow communication; (col.14, lines 25-33), (col.2, lines 1-23)
 - holding means for holding, in a first information processing apparatus, information about a device mountable on the first information processing apparatus in a memory area (RAM 2) that is accessible by another information processing apparatus via said communication

means;(storing in memory implies holding in the memory (col.8, lines 17-52)

- acquisition means acquires information indicative of a device on which the external device is mountable and indicative of whether each device has already been mounted on the external device, and (col.14, lines 25-33), (col.15, lines 5-18)
- display control means for controlling a display based upon the information acquired by said acquisition means in the second information processing apparatus. (col.9, lines 39-50)
- wherein the device mountable on said information processing apparatus includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. (col.13, lines 11-37), wherein ink jet cartridge is attachable part, photocouplers detecting carriage lever as an assisting function)

l. As per claim 13, Isoda discloses communication control means comprises a communication control bus complying with an IEEE-1394 standard. (col.4, lines 36-45)

m. As per claim 14. Isoda discloses the memory area is set in a configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard. (col.4, lines 1-62)

n. As per claim 15, Isoda discloses the memory area is an area specified based upon information held in an Instance Directory of the configuration ROM. (col.4, lines 1-62)

o. As per claim 16. Isoda discloses holding means holds, in the memory area, information indicative of a device mountable on said first information processing apparatus and a device that has already been mounted on said information processing apparatus. (col.12, lines 42-48), (col.13, lines 47-51), (col.14, lines 25-33) and (col.9, lines 39-50)

p. As per claims 11, 17 Isoda discloses

- acquisition means acquires information indicative of a device mountable on the first information processing apparatus and a device that has already been mounted on the first information processing apparatus, and (col.12, lines 42-48), (col.13, lines 47-51) and (col.14, lines 25-33)
- display control means displays a device that is mountable on an external device based on the information acquired by said acquisition means, and identifiably displays a device that has already been mounted on the external device. (col.9, lines 39-50)

q. As per claim 21. Isoda discloses:

- a storage medium (RAM 2) which stores a control program for controlling an information processing apparatus having communication

control means for connecting an external device so as to allow communication, and (col.2, lines 1-23), (col.8, lines 17-53)

- holding means for holding information about a device mountable on the apparatus in a memory area which can be accessed by the external device via the communication control means, ;(arbitration (holding) permission to obtain for transmitting, col.15, lines 59-67), (col.8, lines 17-52)
- the control program comprising a code of the transmission step of transmitting the information about a device mountable on the apparatus, that is held in the memory area, via -the communication control means in accordance with a request from the external device via the communication control means. (col.20, lines 1-67), (col.12, lines 42-67)
- wherein the device mountable on said information processing apparatus includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. (col.13, lines 11-37), wherein ink jet cartridge is attachable part, photocouplers detecting carriage lever as an assisting function)

Response to Amendments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In response to applicant's argument that the newly added limitation which amended in the independent claims in claims 1, 8, 12, 18-22, Isoda's reference does not disclose , wherein the device mountable on said information processing apparatus includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. However Isoda does disclose wherein the device mountable on said information processing apparatus includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. (col.13, lines 11-37), wherein ink jet cartridge is attachable part, photocouplers detecting carriage lever as an assisting function)

Conclusion

5. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The

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fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)746-7249 for regular communications and (703)746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

March 31, 2003



**RUPAL DHARIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER**